

Highways for TxCar



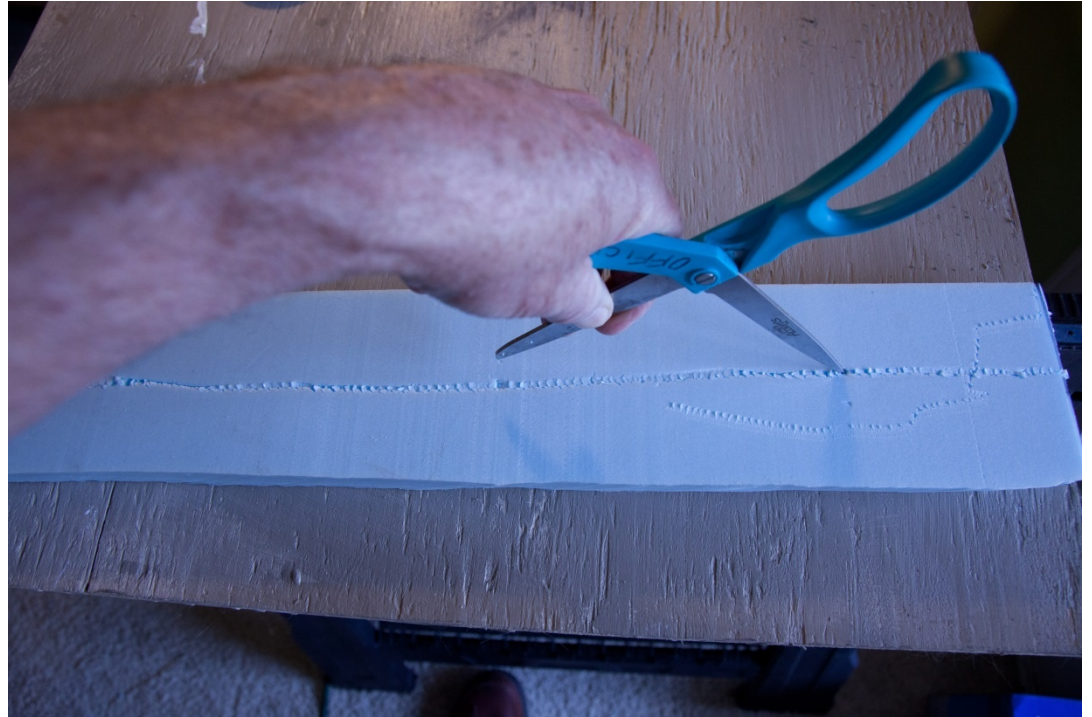
Installing Following Wire

Making a Test Road



1" Blue Insulation Foam; Scissors; Wire; Packing Tape

Score the foam with something to create a linear depression for the wire to lay in. Place the wire in the depression and tape with packing tape, then paint with any color you like to give the tape tooth. As long as you are running on a flat elevation, the car should follow the wire.



Straight Leg of Test Road

This paint is Kaki color which makes a nice concrete effect. We could only find it at Walmart.

I suggest a dog bone with some “S” curves for configuring your test road.



Road One

(The Least Expensive)

Using 0.015 wire; \$0.48 for 3 feet

Masonite board; \$10 for 4 x 8 sheet

Wire Groove cutting tool – Dremel with 90 degree drive; \$29 (angle drive) or Faller tool (\$135).

Woodland Scenic Smooth It; \$6; Faller Acrylmasse (kit component) or Plaster (cheapest).

Railroad cork bed for plaster containment.

Dremel with 90

This will require something to set the depth of the cut. It has been suggested using a dowel laid perpendicular to the cutting blade which will provide something for the cutting shaft to ride on. You'll have to experiment with the different size of dowels to find one that works with your blade.



Faller Cutter



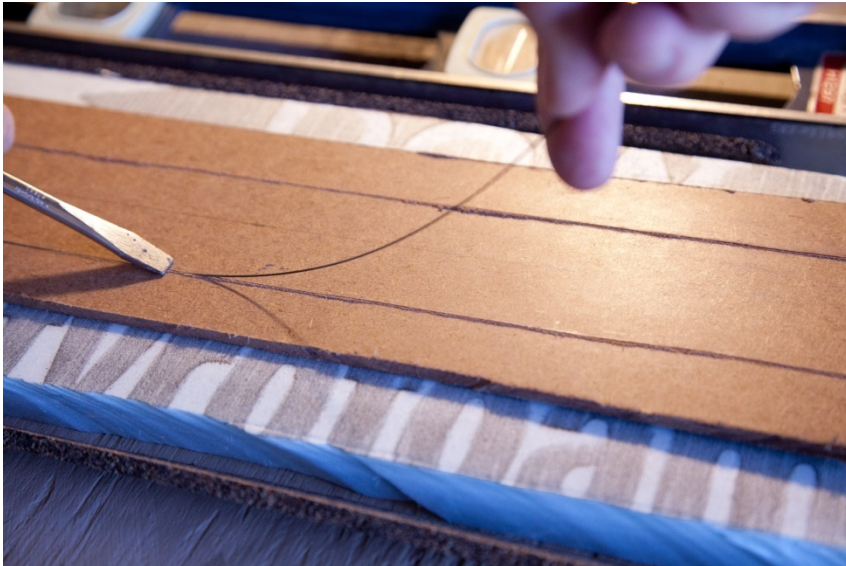
Groove Cutting in 1/8" Masonite

This tool cuts a groove that a 0.015 wire will fit in snugly. A snug fit will make installation much easier because some wire has a tendency to curl so if the fit is tight, the groove helps hold the wire in place while you add glue. Weights at intervals will give you extra hands or free up the ones you are using.



Wire Installation

Use a screw driver



Loctite from Hobby Lobby



A Small Bead of CA – Then Spread

After glue dries, go back and glue ends where clamp is.



Adding Faller Acrylmasse

Note that I have added roadbed to each side of the 1/8 inch Masonite to contain the thin road filler. The roadbed gives about 1/16 inch lip to the edge of the Masonite.

This filler product, Acrylmasse, behaves much as regular plaster or the Woodland Scenic Smooth It product used later.



Acrylmasse

www.stangel.pl



Road Two



Using “Squiggles”

Advantage:

- Makes turns uniform
- Easy to fit together
- No groove cutting required so, no tool to buy.
- Great for small road system.
- Completed 20' road (one direction) for under \$75.

Disadvantage:

- Adds expense (twenty linear feet, \$50). Twenty feet in both directions -\$100.
- Time consuming installation.



Steps One and Two

Wire being Glued



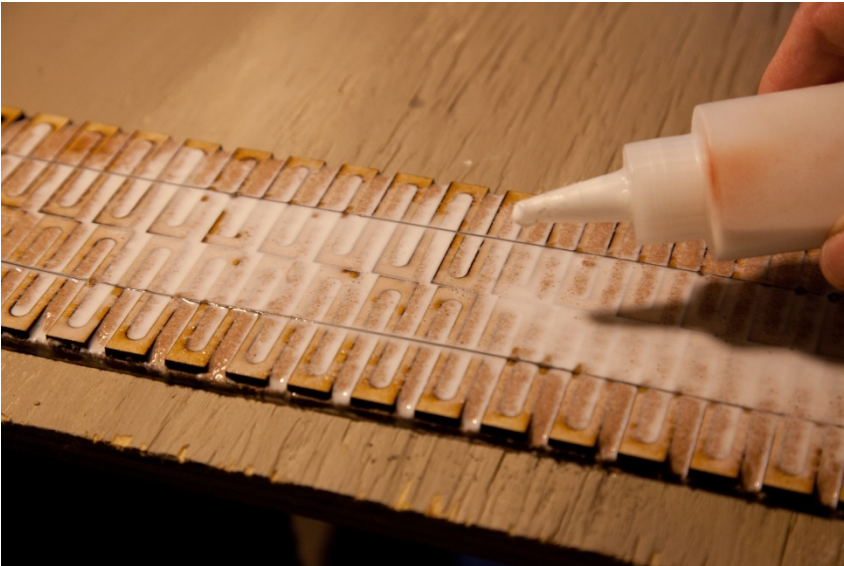
Sand filler



Steps Three and Four

Adding 50/50 glue

Pouring smooth it



Step Five

Sand absorbs filler



Colored layer added

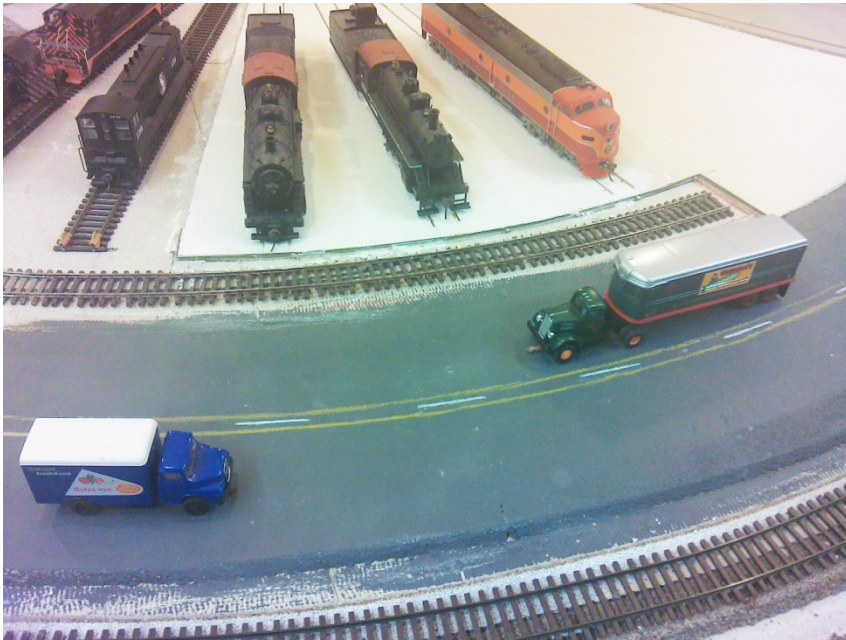


Last Step is Sanding

Of course with all the fillers, sanding is required to get a smooth surface for the vehicles to travel upon. A smooth surface will enhance trouble free operations.



Nice Curves



Road Three



Using Magnetic Bands and Lexan Road Covering

Advantages:

- Trouble free operation
- Smoother road surface
- Quick and easy installation
- Vehicle tongue will not mar surface because magnet rides above roadway.

Disadvantages:

- Groove must be cut by router or Dremel Saw Max – tool costs about \$90.
- Magnetic Band costs about .50 per linear foot.
- Lexan costs \$37 for a 4x8 sheet.





Dremel Saw Max

This tool comes with a flush cut blade plus a regular blade. After purchasing a second regular blade, replace the flush cut blade with the TWO regular blades.

This will provide a 3.5mm wide groove to allow the magnetic band to be installed.



Groove Depth

By trial and error on a test board such as the one seen in the background, adjust the shoe of the tool to achieve a cut measuring around 1.5 mm in depth. This photo shows a 1.68 mm measurement which was satisfactory. The two grooves in the Masonite were cut 1" from the center line of the 4 and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch strip. The width can vary according to your application, e.g., country road, city street, major freeway, etc.



Adding the Magnetic Band

White glue was used to cement the magnetic band in place after the grooves were cut. The bands are 3mm wide and 1 mm thick. Again the grooves were cut 1" from center line.



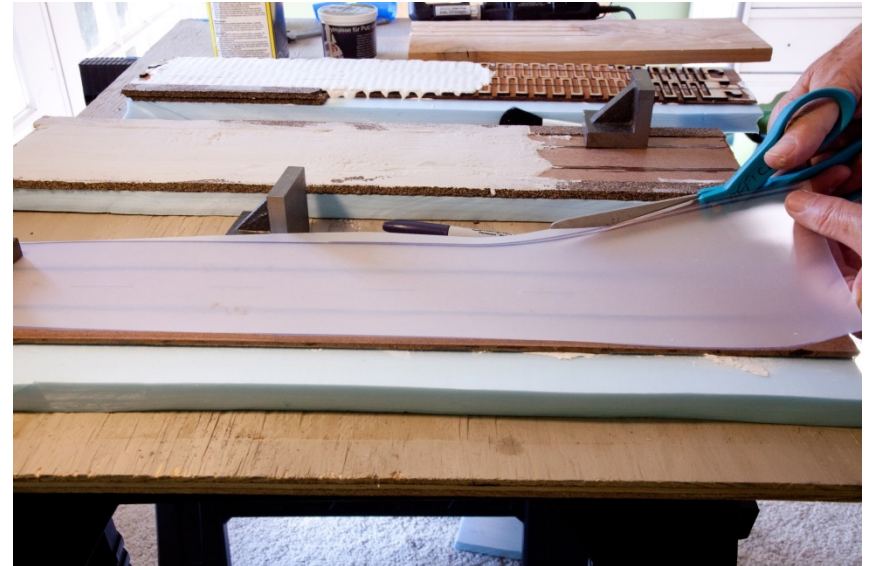
Magnetic Band **pressed** into groove (no tool necessary to hold it in place because the band is very pliable).



Lexan is Sized to Road

Clear material makes
marking/cutting easy

Cut along marks with scissors



Applying Adhesive

Tooth side goes up



Smooth side is adhered to
Masonite

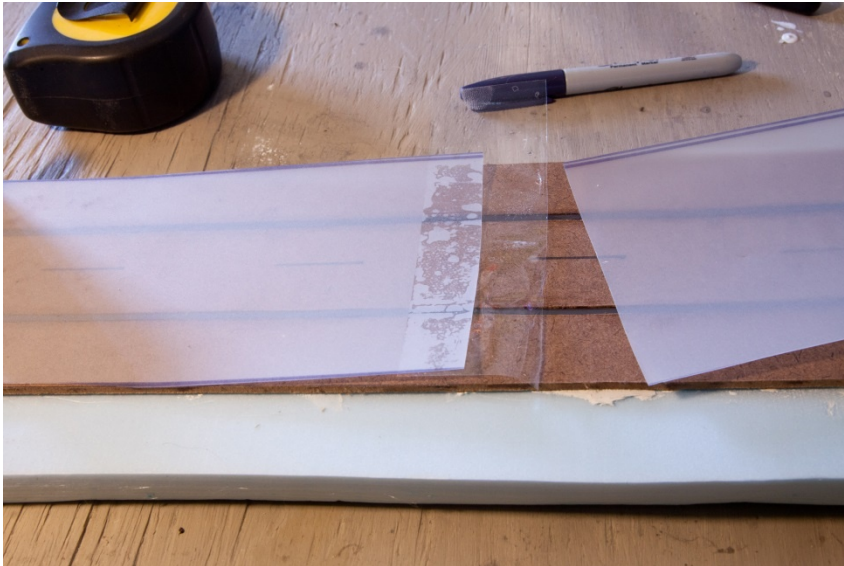


I used Loctite, but 3M is just as good.



Ease of Adding Additional Sections

Add packing tape to the backside (sticky side up) of the lexan.



Simply align second piece to first and press to packing tape.



Asphalt Grey Paint

The paint is applied to the
“tooth” side

Using a roller adds more
surface texture



Left is Behr N520-6 and Right is Rust-Oleum both from Home Depot



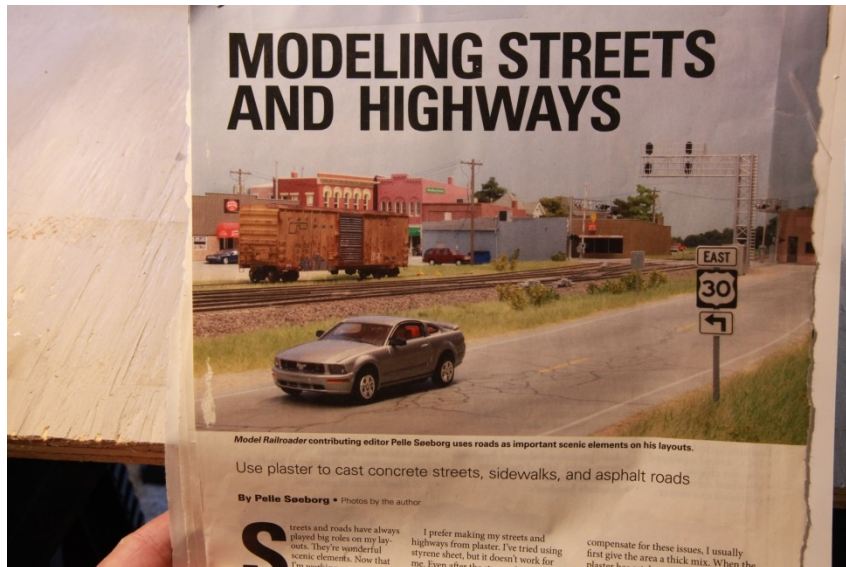
All this roadway is Lexan



For More Details on Roads, read...

Pelle K. Søeborg

Aug 2015, Model Railroader

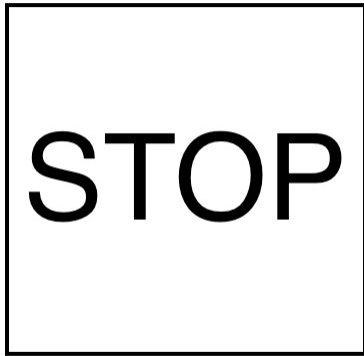


Question:

Who knows what has
changed from the previous
stop sign used in the U.S.A?

And in what year?

First stop sign, Detroit, 1915



USA stop sign since 1954



American stop sign until 1954



Evolution of the U.S. Pavement Marking System

http://ceprofs.civil.tamu.edu/ghawkins/MUTCD-History_files/MUTCDmarkingcolorevolution.pdf

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